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The East Asian Library at the University of California, Berkeley invited the top 25 East Asian collections in North America to participate in the conference to celebrate its new C.V. Starr East Asian Library for East Asian Studies. Each invited library representative presented a paper on his/her library collection history, strengths, and development. This was the first time participants of the conference had the chance to learn from each other's collection in depth. I made a presentation based on this paper included in the conference proceedings. Other faculty members of UC Berkeley Center for East Asian Studies, as well as other international academic organizations and special guests attended.

This paper researched the history and development of the KU East Asian collection for the past fifty years, established in the late 1950s.

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OVER A HUNDRED YEARS OF COLLECTING

The History of East Asian Collections in North America

University of California, Berkeley
October 18–19, 2007



Golden Vision: Fifty Years of the University of Kansas East Asian Collection

Vickie Fu Doll

A Profile of the Current Collection

The University of Kansas (KU) East Asian collection, established in the 1950s, has now enjoyed 50 years of collection history. The collection was named University of Kansas East Asian Library (EAL) in 1964 as a branch library within the KU Libraries system. Located in mid America, it is the largest East Asian Library in the Great Plains region (west of Chicago and east of California). In 1964 the collection size was ranked 26th by the T. H. Tsien survey.¹ Today, the collection contains a total of 267,600 volumes, with over 1300 periodical titles in print, 1200 DVDs and VCDs, in addition to many core web-access databases. In 2006, it ranked 20th among North America East Asian collections and 10th among publicly funded collections.² This paper covers the KU East Asian studies program, collection status and strengths, its 50 year collection history and notable librarians, current trends in East Asian studies, and the need for cooperative effort among medium-sized East Asian collections in North America. The continuous changes in global resource access will drive the future of this library and that of all research libraries. New directions in area studies programs, availability of new information technologies, and global collaboration in sharing information resources will determine the future of libraries like ours.

KU East Asian Studies Program History

It was the launch of Sputnik I in 1957 by the Soviet Union that first brought shock and immediate change to the American education system, especially in area studies. In 1958, the Congress enacted the National Defense Education Act (NDEA) Title VI program, the keystone of federal support for international education. The purpose of the legislation was to “insure trained manpower of sufficient quality and quantity to meet the national defense needs of the United States.”³ To accomplish this goal, the federal government first supported the education of specialists in various disciplines, including foreign languages and area studies, and later expanded this support to international education at all levels. NDEA Title VI provided the bulk of federal support of international education in 1958 and was followed by the Higher Education Act with funding that was later sustained by individual states.

KU Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS) officially started with a NDEA grant in 1961, although the Oriental Languages and Cultures Department started in 1959. The

¹ T. H. Tsien and H. W. Winger, *Area Studies and the Library* (Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press, 1966), 60-61.

² “Council on East Asian Libraries Statistics 2005-2006 for North American Institutions,” *Journal of East Asian Libraries*, no. 141 (February 2007), 60-61. Statistics data can be found also at the interactive *CEAL Statistics Database* at <http://www.lib.ku.edu/ceal>.

³ Lorraine M. McDonnell, S. Berryman, and D. Scott, *Federal Support for International Studies: The Role of NDEA Title VI* (Santa Monica, CA: Rand Publication, 1981), 2. The complete text of the NDEA Title VI legislation and its successor, Title VI of the Higher Education Act is reproduced in Appendix B. 173-184.

establishment was announced in a 1963 newsletter of the Association of Asian Studies.⁴ Among today's 100 plus East Asian collections and libraries of various sizes, about one-third were founded in the 1960s, all through NDEA, Hays, Ford, and Mellon grants. The KU CEAS is a coordinating committee consisting of area and language faculty from a range of disciplines (humanities, social sciences, professional schools, law, etc.). Each such faculty member is hired by and works in their own academic department, but also participates in center activities and is recognized as a core or associate member of the center. A director and sometimes an associate director are elected from among core center faculty.

One can know the collection best through the program the collection supports. The Kansas program from early 1960s emphasized East Asian languages, culture, history, religion, and political diversity with a concentration on medieval and pre-modern periods of China and Japan; especially history, art history, literature, religion and cultural history of traditional East Asia. The study of contemporary East Asia was added to the traditional East Asian studies in the early 1980s due to its growing importance and more demand for area specialists in government and business as a result of the increased political interaction with China, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. Interdisciplinary courses in political science, communication, business, and international law were offered in addition to those already existing disciplines in studies of modern East Asian societies to allow more applied employment beyond the training of area specialists for teaching and advanced research. Since the end of the Cold War in the early 1990s, additional emphasis on international and global studies produced strong interest in multidisciplinary studies with connections between scientific and humanistic inquiry across traditional cultural boundaries. Today, the KU CEAS is composed of more than 50 East Asian faculty members who teach in more than 25 departments and several professional schools throughout the University. During the immediate past academic year 2007, over 200 courses were offered in the fields of history, art history, philosophy, language and literature, political science, law, geography, religion, theater and film, music, anthropology, economics, business, and social work. The program has particular strengths in East Asian art history, history, languages and cultures, and theater and film, and is expanding its offerings in contemporary politics, Chinese as a second language certificates, and East Asian legal studies.

Collection Support for the East Asian Studies Program

The library's mission is to provide the most effective knowledge and information service possible to current and future user needs, and to provide and develop access to information and collections as a regional, national and international research resource. In addition to state funds, the library has been supported by the Center's Title VI National Resource Center grant for many terms and consecutively for the last decade. The Freeman Foundation grant, and the recent establishment of the Confucius Institute have all included the library as a program

⁴ *Newsletter of the Association for Asian Studies*, Vol. VIII, no. 3 (February 1963), 38, "The University of Kansas announces the establishment of a Center for East Asian Studies under the directorship of Thomas R. Smith, professor of geography. The Center will offer the degrees of M.A. and Ph. D. in history or political science with an emphasis on East Asia. At present it offers both Chinese and Japanese language and studies courses in history, political science, sociology and anthropology, Oriental languages and literature, history of art, and geography. Its library facilities include a collection of 7500 oriental language volumes, three full-time and part-time catalogers; an annual expenditure for East Asian language materials of \$12,000 and major holdings in western-language materials with special strength in history, geography, and political science."

partner to obtain and collaborate in new program development and activities. External library support grants have always been carefully planned with enthusiasm; and the library has benefited from exchange and gift programs with national libraries and academic publications in East Asian countries since 1960s.

Three basic questions must be asked of a library collection: content, process, and outcomes. What is collected? How is it collected? And what is the result for the users? How each of these challenges is met have made libraries different, due to what has been collected, how the collection has been processed, and who is served by the collection.

Chinese Collection

The Chinese collection amounts to some 165,000 titles in over 200,000 volumes, and is sufficient to support the research needs of our faculty, graduate students and independent researchers with the on-site collection, interlibrary loan services, and web access electronic databases. From 1959 to 1973, NDEA and Ford Foundation funds support enabled the purchase of many large sets of the core collection of Chinese classics as well as sets of encyclopedias. More than 500 collectanea of monographic series in Chinese reside today in the collection.

Scholarship on China in the Chinese language has a complex history. The library holds a large portion of historical writing produced by traditional scholars in classical Chinese through the early 1920s. This work is of the highest quality, and retains its value to the present day. Also covered are titles by historians of the May Fourth generation, active from the 1930s, who adopted new Western-influenced perspectives on the past. Since late 1970s Chinese scholars have produced many revised editions of rare historical sources and a flood of new work on history has been published. Chinese and English electronic bibliographic and reference tools, Chinese ancient texts database, full-text journal and newspaper databases have enhanced scholarly research through electronic indexing and retrieval.

The Chinese collection provides broad coverage of history, art history, language and literature, philosophy and religion, and sources for the study of social science in the modern period. It is particularly strong in the study of the Yuan, Ming, and Qing dynasties (1260-1912), the study of China's Republican period (1912-1949), the social and economic conditions of post Cultural Revolution China (1975-), and the history of modern China. To support these history related teaching and research activities, the library provides such primary sources as local gazetteers from the Song, Yuan, Ming, and Qing dynasties with a focus on Central China (Huazhong), North China (Huabei) and Northwest China (Xibei) regions. Individual authors from the Song (960-1279), Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1912) periods, and authoritative collectanea (*congshu*) are also collected as primary resources. These collections support doctoral level studies.

The collection is also strong in the history of the Tang, Song and Yuan (960-1368), and Ming and Qing dynasties (1368-1912) for art history studies. The collection includes works of individual painters especially of the Yuan and Ming dynasties, museum and exhibition catalogs, biographies and writings of the literati painters, art criticism and historical works on paintings. Buddhist paintings in studies of Dunhuang mural paintings and history of Chinese calligraphy from the early period of the 6th century to the 10th century are of particular strength. The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, about 50 miles

from the University of Kansas, is most famous for its distinguished collection of Chinese art. The 7,500 masterpieces of Chinese art in all mediums and every historical period, from early Shang Zhou period to the 20th century, establish it among the top Chinese art collections in the nation. The art collection has effectively supported the KU Chinese and Asian art history program. Laurence Sickman (1906-1988), the Asian art specialist and the first curator of Oriental art, and the Museum director from 1953 to 1977 specialized in early bronze sculptures and paintings. Sickman's generous gift of art books strengthened our art history collection in the early years. The collections supports doctoral level studies and the program ranks among the top few public institutions.

The Chinese language and literature collection is strong in classical literature of poetry, fiction, novels, colloquial short stories, and anthologies. Important collections include Tang and Song poetry, Yuan and Ming drama, Ming and Qing novels and prose, Tang through Qing literary collections (*wenji*), modern literature and criticism, and collections of important 20th century authors. Collectanea of classical collections compiled by Qing imperials and other private collectors are primary sources for traditional Chinese studies. The notable Bruno Schindler⁵ (1882-1964) Collection consists of 296 titles in over 1300 volumes which concentrate on the thirteen classics of pre-1800 publications. This collection was noted by the KU Libraries administration as having "special strength and good publicities" and as being "enthusiastically endorsed by the department."⁶ As a publicly funded library, the library does not emphasize rare collections, but provides the best available editions on open shelves for researchers. Even so, the Schindler collection included some rare editions such as the Song woodblock prints (10-13th century) of *Er ya* (爾雅) and *Shi jing* (詩經). Some titles in this collection were once collected by the famous German Sinologist August Conrady⁷ (1864-1925) whose collector stamp "A. Conrady 孔好古印" (Image 1) was found in *Yugong zhuizhi* (禹貢錐指), 1705, among others. Rare books in East Asian languages are collected by the Spencer Research Library Special Collections. One title among their collection is the Korean-Chinese manuscript sutra *Dafang guangfo Huayanjing* (大方廣佛華嚴經) which was dated 1325 (Image 2).

The collection supports doctoral level Buddhist studies. Primary sources include the *Taishō shinshū dai zōkyō* (大正新脩大藏經 Taishō edition of the revised Cannon), *Songzang yizhen* (宋藏遺珍 Rarities from the Song Canon), *Zhonghua Dazangjing* (中華大藏經) which was based on the *Zhaocheng Jin Zang* (趙城金藏), one of the the earlier Chinese texts, *Fangshan shijing* (房山石經), Ming *Yongle beizang* (永樂北藏), and many other editions of the Tripitaka. These provide unique opportunities for textual collation and authentication of

⁵ A German Jew from Leipzig who once studied under August Conrady. While in China in 1912 he studied the problems of the Chinese Jews in Kaifeng and founded the Jewish community of Shanghai. Schindler founded the journal *Asia Major* in Germany in 1920 to lead scholarship on East Asia. He emigrated to Britain in 1933 when German National Socialism barred Jews from positions in German academia. The *Asia Major* new series was revived beginning with v. 2 in 1949 which had the subtitle "*British Journal of Far Eastern Studies*" Schindler's obituary appeared on v. 11 pt. 2, 1965 93-95, written by Walter Simon. "Bruno Schindler with the old *Asia major* a builder-owner of the German Sinology" in memorial minute by Erich Haenisch. <http://www.umass.edu/wsp/sinology/persons/schindler.html> (Accessed May 4, 2007)

⁶ Hand written comment by Stuart Forth (Library Director) on Karl Lo's request for Schindler's collection dated May 13, 1965. Original was collected at the University Archives.

⁷ A German Sinologist whose expertise was in classic Chinese. He was Dr. Lin Yutang's dissertation advisor at Leipzig University. He published numerous works on the Chinese language, culture and history.

Buddhist texts. Buddhist art and Chinese calligraphy art history majors also use this collection extensively. Through the years many big sets have been supported for art history, history and religion studies. These disciplines were able to justify large set acquisition of reprinted local gazetteers, collectanea, gazetteers of Buddhist monasteries, inscriptions and rubbings, archeology findings and collection of biographies useful for the humanists.

Chinese studies microform collections are strong on Republic era newspapers and journals. One major part is the microfilm collection of the Hong Kong Union Research Institute Library's microfilm collection which consists of over a thousand reels of classified and indexed files between 1953 to 1966 on Communist China. Among other important subjects in the microform collection is the history and development of Christianity in China as well as the indigenous church history development in early 20th century. Many serial titles were reproduced by the American Theological Library Association (Evanston, Ill.) Serials Preservation Program of Chinese Christian serial collection. KU was among one of the suppliers of originals to ATLA of rare periodical holdings on this topic.

The gift of Robert Arthur Burton⁸ (1922-1987) Collection given by his family in 1991 to the library covered essential English and Chinese publications from China and Hong Kong during 1950s to the 1970s on Chinese Communism and the Cultural Revolution. His collection has over two thousand volumes including a complete collection of CCP party leader speeches, party policies, Red Guard booklets, pamphlets, and propaganda materials. The most recent major gift is the library of the late Dr. Robert Hartwell⁹ (1920-1995) and Marianne Colson Hartwell made in 2001. Dr. Hartwell is known by the dataset framework of present day "*Chinese Historical GIS*"¹⁰ housed at the Harvard-Yenching Library. The collection included over one thousand titles of Chinese classics and pre-modern dynasty histories (Tang, Song, and Yuan 618 A.D.-1368 A.D.) and economic history through all dynasties. Though large classical sets produce some duplication of library holdings, those sets fill gaps in the collection of many ancient texts that are not available in the current publication market.

Japanese scholarly publication on China is the deepest of all, but the cost of monographic and serial work by Japanese scholars is extremely high. A medium-sized library cannot afford very many of them.

Japanese Collection

The Japanese collection was established later than the Chinese collection and is strong in Japanese art history, modern Japanese history, classical and modern literature, theater and drama. The collection developed in the field of social science in the 1980s, and recent additions of film, anime and comics for popular culture and interdisciplinary studies have

⁸ Burton was born in Buenos Aires and had been the United Press bureau chief in Beijing, China (1946-49). He worked in Hong Kong for the United States Information Service and as correspondent for ABC. He was the ghost writer for the published memoirs of Zhang Guotao (张国焘), one of the founders of the Chinese Communist party.

⁹ A social historian of medieval Chinese history from the University of Pennsylvania who devoted three decades to this dataset which was donated to the Harvard Yenching Library to create the *Chinese Historical GIS*. See Bol's "An overview of work on an Historical GIS of China, an introduction to Robert Hartwell's work,"

http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~chgis/work/docs/papers/Bol_Hartwell_GIS.doc (Accessed May 10, 2007)

¹⁰ *China Historical GIS*, <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~chgis/>. Robert Hartwell, *China Historical Studies* dataset <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~chgis/> (Accessed May 3, 2007)

added more depth and variety. The collection has been supported by external funds and generous private donors.

The Japanese art history collection has been one of the strongest areas of collection, supporting Ph.D. programs in the Art History Department. The library has continually acquired major publications and exhibition catalogs of established museums in Japan to provide updated secondary resources for library users. It has been particularly strong in paintings from the medieval to the pre-modern period of Japan, covering the major picture scrolls produced between the Heian, Muromachi, and the Azuchi-Manoyama period (794-1603). The library also has an extensive collection of Edo (Tokugawa) period (1600-1868) paintings and ukiyoe woodblock prints. This strength came from the purchase of the private Harold Philip Stern (1922-1977) Collection in the late 1960s. Stern was an American art historian who specialized in Asian art. He was the director of the Freer Gallery of the Smithsonian Institute from 1971 to 1977. The Stern collection consists of over 1,000 titles of Japanese and Chinese art and art history materials. The collection focuses on Japanese ukiyoe paintings and hanga. Buddhist art is currently the most expanding subject in the collection of Japanese art, with the acquisition of major studies and visual materials on Buddhist temples and sculptures. In response to the many requests not only from art history researchers but also scholars of history and literature, the collection is now collecting commercial art of the 20th century.

The collection of materials on the performing arts is another point of strength. The collection covers both the primary and secondary sources of kabuki and noh plays. Visual recordings of kabuki, noh and other traditional performing arts have been actively collected to support faculty research and teaching, and such materials have been widely circulated by interlibrary loan.

The Japanese history collection, in particular from the Meiji to early Shōwa periods, is another strong area in the library, covering both important primary and secondary sources to support the MA and Ph.D programs of the Department of History. The collection is enriched with unique materials on the socialist/communist movement and history, including the original and reprint issues of journals and monographs published by socialist and communist groups in the 1920s and 1930s and Japanese Leftwing movements before and after World War II. The collection also holds materials on Taiwan, Chōsen (current South and North Korea), and Manchuria (Manchukuo) under the Japanese occupation.

The collection also acquires contemporary Japanese films, major film journals including reprint sets of serials and monographs, resources on pre-war Japanese films including DVD format, and works produced in Manshūkoku (Manchukuo). These resources have been used for research in film studies, history and literature.

To enhance social science studies a concentrated effort has been made to collect materials on social problems. For example, the library has collected materials to examine the historical and contemporary situation of the Buraku people. Additional concentrated effort has been made to collect materials for women's studies. In connection with its history collection, the library has acquired some major reprints of women's journals originally published between the Meiji and early Shōwa periods, and the reprinted primary source collection on the comfort women of World War II. In the field of anthropology, recent collection development focuses on traditional food culture and folk beliefs of Japan. The library has been collecting the prints and paintings of ghosts and monsters created from the Heian to Edo periods, which provides an interdisciplinary approach to folk beliefs.

Recent addition of materials on Japanese popular culture such as manga and anime has attracted both students and faculty. The popularity of pop-culture came into full bloom in 2004 when KU held an international conference on Godzilla, entitled "In Godzilla's footsteps: Japanese pop culture icons on the global stage," and the Japanese Studies Librarian produced a fabulous exhibition on Godzilla, examining the last half century of Godzilla films in Japanese historical and social context.

The development of the Japanese studies collection has been generously supported by funding from agencies and generous donors. In 1997, the State of Kansas Libraries Interlibrary Development Program (ILDP) gave a grant to the library to purchase K-12 multimedia resources for teaching about East Asia. The Metropolitan Center for Far Eastern Art Studies has funded the acquisition of resources on Japanese Buddhist art for many years. The Multi-Volume Sets (MVS) Project Grants funded by the North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources (NCC) has helped the library to purchase reprints of collections of pre-war journals, which cover women, children, criminology, and eugenics as well as the Battle of Okinawa image collection. The Japan Foundation Library Support Program allowed the library to purchase resources strongly requested by the KU faculty members.

Kanagawa University, a sister university of KU, made a very generous contribution to the collection from 1995 for four years to commemorate its 70th anniversary. The library acquired about 500 volumes concentrated on Japanese business, trade and government policy. The most recent Japanese gift was the Kansas City Japan Consulate Office collection of over 1,000 volumes of Japanese and English works when its office closed in 2005. The gift includes hundreds of titles in Japanese on Japanese culture, history, government and business, and some mixed media resources.

As a part of the collaborative collection development with other university libraries in North America, in 2002, the library started to collect shashi, publications that provide company histories, usually privately published by the companies themselves. The library focuses on some specific industries, such as agriculture, electronic machinery, fishery, food and trading. This project is supported by generous donations from individual companies and organizations.

The library has been honored to be the depository of some private collections, although the names of many generous donors remain anonymous. The library is very appreciative of the donors and funding agencies that chose the KU library as the recipient of their contributions.

Korean Collection

Although Korean classical literature was collected since the 1960s, the Korean collection was rejuvenated in the mid-1990s. The Korean language collection concentrates on core reference works, classical literature and language, history, art history and archeology. Since 1996, the library has purchased Korean materials regularly to support various Korean studies initiatives. A recent concentration has been on Korean art history from the 16th to the 18th centuries, and the 4th to 6th century archeology of the North Korea and the China border. Han Ryo has become a popular topic and many contemporary TV dramas and movies have been collected to support the growing interest. Gifts from the Korean Foundation and the Korea Film Council film archive have enhanced the collection.

A recent generous gift from the International Communications Foundation in South Korea will enhance the library holdings on Korean literature that will have a significant impact on the students and faculty of KU. The gift includes major literature reference sources in Korean such as dictionaries of literature, writing style, and author names, as well as an encyclopedic work on Korean literature of all major periods of history. Also included are major sets of classical Korean writings, selected modern writers' complete collections, and titles on the history of Korean literature, culture and folk beliefs that inform literature, tales of literature and criticism, and DVDs of Korean films. Exemplary works in English translation are also covered by the gift.

Periodicals and Western Languages Materials

It is financially impossible to collect all the newspapers and periodicals available for East Asian studies. Therefore, periodicals including newspapers are collected selectively to support the teaching and research needs of the University. Selections are based upon an evaluation of the subject areas taught, research projects, and faculty recommendations. Since 2003, Chinese and Japanese electronic full-text periodical databases, periodical indexes, and full-text newspapers have been added to the collection. The e-resource acquisition has been through the East Asian studies group of the Greater Western Libraries Alliance Consortium (GWLA)¹¹ in order to coordinate with preferred product vendors on price structure, license terms, product features, service and preservation. The GWLA East Asian Studies group has been meeting since 2002, and since 2005 has met annually in conjunction with the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) annual conference.

The East Asian languages collection is broadly supported by western language materials on East Asia studies housed in the general library collection and other special libraries throughout the library system. The western language materials which support the studies consist of more than 45,000 volumes in history, art history, literature, language, philosophy, religion, political science, sociology, anthropology, theater and drama, and geography. Through Yankee Book Peddler Library Services (U.S.) and Harrassowitz (Germany) approval plans in coordination with other subject specialists, the Libraries acquire most English language scholarly and academic publications on East Asian studies published in North America and Europe. An average of 450 titles on Asian studies has been added through the approval plans each year. These works support basic undergraduate study and graduate research.

Noted KU East Asian Librarians

Karl Kwak-Bong Lo (盧國邦)

It is undoubtedly true that the most important library resource is its human resources. The library has had a wealth of human resources that have established the library tradition, introduced a vision, set a high standard, and broadened the library's service horizon in the past 50 years. "The strengths of a library depend first and foremost on its staff, collections

8. *GWLA East Asian Studies* http://www.lib.ku.edu/eastasia/gwla/gwla_eastasian.shtml (Accessed May 1, 2007)

and computer power. All these strengths could be united for sharing to create synergy.”¹² Indeed, the first KU East Asian Librarian Karl Kwak-Bong Lo (盧國邦) established a solid foundation, started a quality collection, and influenced many other East Asian librarians to embrace innovative thinking in East Asian library information technology and training in librarianship. He deserves the first chapter in Kansas East Asian Library history. In the early 1950s, Joan Chao, a cataloger of the Acquisitions Department assisted the acquisition of East Asian languages material. The library had several hundreds of volumes on Japanese politics and economics at the time Karl Lo came to the KU Libraries as a Cataloger in 1959. He graduated from Hong Kong Chung Chi College 香港崇基書院 (Hong Kong) in Chemistry in 1958, and in Library Services from Atlanta University in 1960. He was later appointed as the Oriental Cataloger and Bibliographer in 1961, and the East Asian Librarian in 1963. Karl was assisted by Mr. William Sheh Wong (汪燮) who was appointed as an East Asian Cataloger in 1964 and as Assistant East Asian Librarian in 1965. The collection was part of the Preparations Department in 1960 and became a department in the University Libraries system in 1966.¹³ Under Lo’s leadership, the library initiated systematic buying plans. From 1960 to 1964, the collection grew to over 23,000 volumes including monographs, microfilm, pamphlet material, and subscriptions to over 300 journals. In 1964, the collection was moved to attractive new quarters in the west wing on the first floor of the main library, the Watson Library building. The collection was named the East Asian Library with librarian and staff work space in the adjacent collection space. During Lo’s tenure in Kansas (1959-1968), a rapid development of library resources were of paramount importance for the university’s East Asian studies program. He and other interested faculty helped immeasurably to publicize library needs and established the acquisition patterns which the library has since followed until the late 1970s when the mainland China market opened. He and faculty members traveled to East Asian countries to establish personal contacts among dealers in Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, and Taiwan to acquire valuable sets and rare material that were not available via regular supply channels. Lo’s various reports of library buying trips and annual reports filled with passion toward building the library’s collection, his excitement in acquiring rare titles, his cordial collaboration with East Asian studies faculty, and his friendly communication with the library leadership ensured the quality and quantity in growth of the library collection. His enthusiasm and energy never slowed down during those years. In those early years, Lo had an effective acquisition program and acquired around 6,000 volumes per year. Genji Ōkubo¹⁴ assisted with the Japanese collection in those years. He was a Japanese historian and a long time supporter of the Japanese studies program at KU who was known as the editor and translator of works by E. H. Norman.¹⁵ Lo frequently referred to Ōkubo as “the man” or “our man,” who selected and ordered Japanese materials for the library from Japan. He provided most efficient and economical services for the KU Japanese collection for over 20 years from the mid 1950s to the mid 1970s. Lo

¹² Karl Lo, “CJK, the byte that breeches the dam,” *OCLC CJK Users Group 20th Anniversary Celebration*, April 8, 2006 (San Francisco, 2006).

¹³ Karl Lo, *East Asian Library Departmental Monthly Report* (September 1966)

¹⁴ George Beckmann, and Genji Ōkubo, *Japanese Communist Party, 1922-1945* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1969). Co-author with George Beckmann.

¹⁵ E. H. Norman was a historian and Canadian diplomat posted to Japan during most of the Occupation who was intimately involved with the crafting of Japan’s postwar constitution.

commented on Ōkubo's service in his July 8, 1965 memo to Thomas R. Smith, Chairman of the East Asian Committee,

He is a conscientious person who always wants to make his operation economical and efficient. He usually can get 10% discount on all new publications, and often manages to acquire old books at prices lower than those listed in big dealer's catalogs. His responses to our inquiries have been prompt and cooperative. In addition to his book buying activities, he gave personal assistance to Professors [snip] while they were in Japan. In many respects, Mr. Okubo has become a friend as well as a colleague of many of us. His service is most beneficial to the Library. We should, at all possible, keep him on our team.¹⁶

Lo also used the Association for Asian Studies Chinese Research Aids and Service Center at Taipei to acquire reprints of "internal distribution" (neibu faxing' 内部發行) materials from China during the 1960s. In addition, Lo made buying trips to Asia several times to acquire materials and make contacts. Concerning the impact of his 1965 buying trip, he wrote,

On this trip, I can say that I have improved our relations with book dealers. But, the improvement with other libraries are still greater. Many book dealers react to the name of Kansas favorably. No one has any complain.... To librarians, at least 50% of those I met, Kansas was a strange name. They, even those that knew of Kansas, were surprised about our East Asian programs...¹⁷

Lo infused the library collection with a vision to fulfill users need at his time and beyond his time for the future. In his "*Twentieth Century China: viewed in the first issues of some lesser known periodicals*"¹⁸ he described how he found some valuable publications and the joy of his discovery:

When I came upon a few camouflaged issues of the Japanese Communist Party organ *To Kensetsusha* (党建設者) : This was the sort of happy moment when a bibliographer gets his hands on a well-known but hard-to-find item. And the feeling is not achieved in like manner by a photocopy. With some of the lesser known, less frequently quoted materials, you may well feel that unless you hang on to the particular copy you have discovered, it may end up at a paper mill, and return to the market as a 'banknote of Hades.' Unless you keep that particular copy, it may vanish from the world forever." ... "In its history of eight years and forty thousand volumes, the East Asian Library of the University of Kansas Libraries has acquired a sampling of these lesser

¹⁶ Karl Lo, memo to Thomas R. Smith (East Asian Committee Chair), dated July 8, 1965 stated his three special acquisition programs.

¹⁷ Karl Lo, letter to Thomas Buckman (Director of KU Libraries) from Taipei, Taiwan dated December 5, 1965.

¹⁸ Karl Lo, "Twentieth Century China: Viewed in the First Issues of Some Lesser-Known Periodicals," *Books and Libraries at the University of Kansas*, 5:2 (June, 1968), 2-8.

known materials. As single items they may appear to have little relevance to our programs, yet together they form a coordinated and interesting group.

In the effort spent finding useful information, on a mission to save lesser known published works, with a heart to provide full usage of such knowledge, Lo was on target in all his endeavors. Of the annotated 28 “lesser known” (as described by Lo) Chinese periodicals from early 1920s through early 1950s, only 12 of them have other holdings listed in OCLC WorldCat in 2007. If one disregard the possibility that some libraries’ holdings have not been converted online, it is apparent that more than half of the titles Lo described in his paper are still unique. Even among those 12 titles that have other holdings, only two have more than four holdings. Among those libraries that held those titles are Stanford, Princeton, Cornell, Harvard, Washington, and the Library of Congress (LC). As Lo cautioned, many periodicals of that era would be soon gone, he wrote,

According to statistics found in one of the journals mentioned later in this article, there are 45 newspapers and 41 periodicals registered and published in the city of Canton in 1946. ...2,108 copies of banned newspapers and periodicals were burned by the city government in the same year. Looking over the list, I am doubtful that any of those publications found their way to a library.

What went through Lo’s mind at that point remains a profound question for today. What does it take to make a good collection unique? Should a librarian save published work during a time of turmoil with whatever he can get in hand? How much added effort should a librarian take to preserve endangered human records for the future? In another buying trip to East Asia in 1965, Lo recorded his impressions of the antiquarian book market¹⁹ and his experience with vivid images. With his Cantonese accent and his intelligent bright-eyed face, he once said, “Kansas has some treasures (hao dong xi 好東西).” He was all smiles when talking about Kansas treasures in the early 2000s, even after 30 years away from KU. Among his special accomplishments was acquisition of the Schindler Collection in 1965.

Lo had a classical literary writing style with profound sinological training and excellent penmanship. For years, KU EAL staff have come across his hand written cataloging cards made in the 1950s and early 1960s which reflect his upright personality. He wrote every report, letter, and memo as if telling an interesting and important story. There was never a dull moment in reading his reports. In several annual reports, Karl even added his personal touches on report covers with calligraphy and Chinese graphic images. In 1967 he proposed a five-year development plan for the library which exemplified his vision and direction in building the library a step further to reach 100,000 volumes in the collection. Unfortunately for Kansas, he left the library for the University of Washington in October 1968. The 100,000 volumes goal was not met until the early 1980s.

Lo was innovative and visionary, with a generous heart to create benefit for all member libraries. He served on the CEAL Membership Committee in the mid 1960s and never stopped CEAL public service until his retirement from UC San Diego International

¹⁹ Karl Lo, “Impression of the East Asian antiquarian book market,” *Books and Libraries at the University of Kansas* 3:3 (May 31, 1966), 2-4.

Relations and Pacific Studies Library and East Asia Collection in 2002. He was the instrumental advocate for CEAL library technology since 1960s on bibliographic control, East Asian scripts in online environment (EACC and Unicode), Unimarc and beyond MARC, and finally IP rights. These were advocated in his 2006 OCLC CJK Users Group 20th anniversary speech, his final public presentation to his CEAL colleagues. Lo was much loved and respected by faculty and library colleagues at Kansas during his tenure. Those who knew him will always remember him as a leader with vision and drive, and one who aspired to build the collection into a position of regional and national leadership.

In 1973 the discontinuance of NDEA support to small East Asian studies Centers such as KU, was extremely detrimental. In addition, the rampant inflation in Asia, the general shortage of paper products, and the increasing cost of labor forced East Asian book prices up an unprecedented rate. A combination of the U.S. currency devaluation and withdrawal of government support caused diminution of the library's purchase power by nearly 70% during that time. The library collection growth became smaller in comparison with other East Asian Libraries in the U.S. during that time, despite generous increase in state support.

Eugene Carvalho

Eugene Carvalho was appointed the East Asian Librarian in 1971 with rich Japanese collection skills and knowledge. He was brought up bilingually in English and Japanese, with an understanding of both cultures and mastery of both languages. He was instrumental in building the library's Japanese collection since 1971 and throughout his tenure for 25 years until his retirement in 1996. Carvalho took a leave of absence during academic year 1976 to 1977 for a research project funded by the Japan Foundation to survey the library systems, book publishing and book distribution mechanism in Japan. He was the first East Asian librarian to be given such a fellowship by the Japan Foundation. The library received several library support grants from the prestigious Japan Foundation, Metropolitan Center for Studies in Far Eastern Art, the Japan World Exposition Commemorative Grant, and the State of Kansas Interlibrary Loan grant during his tenure. Also during that time, the EA library book processing moved from manual to totally online in the 1980s, and joined the OCLC CJK cataloging in 1989. Carvalho served on the CEAL Executive Board from 1976 to 1979, and advocated for small and medium-sized library collection representation in the organization. It was not until 1981 that the library was able to regain the Chinese bibliographer position that was removed in the 1970s. Dr. Gary Bjorge (包嘉禮, 1980-1984) and Mr. Ju-yen Teng (鄧汝言, 1985-1987) were assistant East Asian Librarians with a focus on Chinese studies. The two Chinese bibliographers were able to rapidly increase the Chinese collection and added analytical entries to Chinese sets titles. Eugene had a calm and generous personality and trusted others to do their best. He was able to bridge different views and adapt what was the best for the library. He was always consulted by libraries colleagues as a resource person with a balanced view.

East Asian Collection Patterns

According to 2005 publication statistics published by the General Administration of Press and Publication of the People's Republic of China (中华人民共和国新闻出版总署), the

number of books which saw first time publication in 2005 was 110,169²⁰ and from Japan a total of approximately 80,000²¹ in 2006. The library's new acquisitions in 2005 were about 3,000 new titles from China. Of the titles published in China in 2005, we were able to collect three per cent. In the light of such figures, very few libraries, including ours, can claim to be comprehensive and very few have the ability to purchase more than 10% of new publications. What we have been collecting, and will continue to collect in the future, reflects the research and teaching needs of faculty and their graduate students.

In their 2006 report "*Changing Global Book Collection Patterns in ARL Libraries*"²² Mary E. Jackson, Connaway, O'Neill, and Loh analyzed ARL member library cataloging data in the OCLC WorldCat database and presented several findings on changing patterns of foreign publication collection practices, including East Asian publications. They found with "all countries combined, fewer than five ARL libraries own copies of any foreign-imprint book represented in WorldCat" and "... the overlap in holdings ranges from three to six ARL libraries. On average, three ARL libraries hold any given East Asian book and six hold any given book published in Latin America." When they examined imprints from China and Japan and other 8 countries, "On average, holdings from these countries decreased in each of the five-year increments between 1980 and 2004, with the exception of books published in the UK that showed a slight increase."

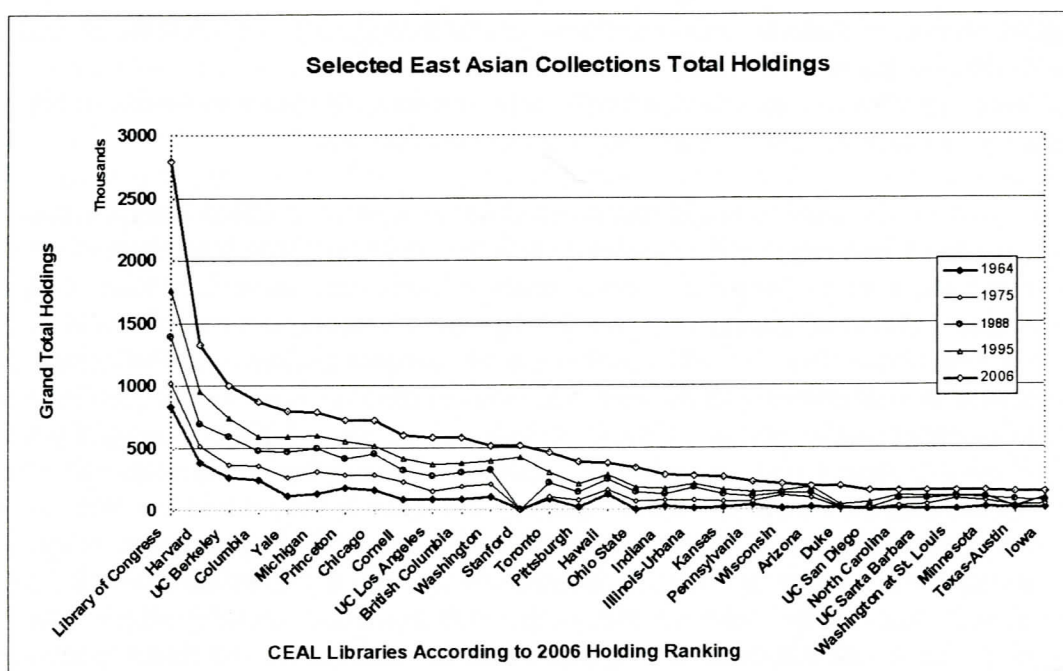
The following table represents the top 31 East Asian collections (excluding New York Public Library) in five selected data years 1964, 1975, 1988, 1995, and 2006²³. The X-axis represents 31 libraries in sequence of total library holdings ranked by 2006 CEAL Statistics. The Y-axis represents the collection size, units in thousand. A few libraries that don't have data for the certain selected year had a "dip" in the line chart. Several collections that did not exist in 1964 or 1970 were given a zero value.

²⁰ "2005 年全国新闻出版业基本情况 2006-08-24" 中华人民共和国新闻出版总署 (General Administration of Press and Publication of the People's Republic of China)
<http://www.gapp.gov.cn/GalaxyPortal/inner/zsw/zongsu3.jsp?articleid=6375&boardpid=145&boardid1=1150101011150f> (Accessed May 1, 2007)

²¹ Estimation based on 2005 *Shuppan Nenkan* figure.

²² Mary Jackson and others, eds., *Changing Global Book Collection Patterns in ARL Libraries*, (Washington, D.C.: Association of College Libraries, 2006).
http://www.arl.org/resources/pubs/grn_global_book.shtml (Accessed August 1, 2007)

²³ *CEAL Statistics Database*, <http://www.lib.ku.edu/ceal> (2006, 1995; beta site 1964, 1975, 1988); T. H. Tsien, *Present Status of East Asian Collections in America*, (1966) and *Current Status of East Asian Collection in American Libraries*, (1976)



This table shows 12 collections with holding sizes above 500 thousand, 11 collections between 200 thousand and 499 thousand, and 8 collections between 130 thousand and 189 thousand. With fewer collections, the size difference in East Asian ARL libraries is greater than the size difference in ARL western language holdings. The top collection is almost 1/6 of the entire 31 collections combined. Therefore, many unique items are held in a few top libraries. These figures distort the East Asian imprint duplication rate of 3. Duplication of items selected from vendor new book catalogs is common among libraries in present days. The data combines all East Asian CJK imprints. The data does not represent specific languages, however, a growth pattern can be seen in almost four 10-year increments between 1964 and 2006.

Conclusion: Challenges to East Asian Collections

In the 1950s, the nation reached a critical point in lack of understanding of other nations, including East Asia. The KU East Asian library program was founded to support the East Asian studies program. Through half a century, these programs have produced thousands of scholars, expanded intellectual horizons, and have deepened the public's understanding of East Asia. However, since the late 1980s, area studies have struggled through conceptual debates over program definitions and usefulness for national security. The traditional study of critical borders, countries, civilizations, history, religion, philosophy and art have been challenged by new identities and nationalism, particularly after the Cold War ended. Since then, it has been critical for area studies programs to adopt new emphases and directions. These new trends have been motivated by new funding directions. One of the new trends is to shift area coverage from specific countries or regions into "inter-area," "cross-boundary" "multi-disciplinary" and "transnational" coverage. Such issue-driven topics include environmental issues, human rights, immigration, minorities and nationalism, and popular

culture which are not “area bound.” Studies have expanded to include international, global, and specialized areas not previously covered.²⁴

This new direction is reflected by Dr. John Dardess, KU Ming historian, in his presentation to the 2002 GWLA East Asian studies conference:

“...it may be noted that research in the history of China has for some time been breaking up into topical subfields, and that these lend themselves more easily to the electronic development of resource than history taken as a whole... It would appear that, for the foreseeable future, the eclectic field of history, or Sinology broadly speaking, will continue to fade, and that topical subfields will continue to burgeon. Our Department of History has specified a number of such topical fields as priorities in future hiring, among them women’s history and environmental history, and the history of imperialism and of indigenous people and minorities; and there is little doubt but that my own position in pre-modern China will eventually be filled by someone whose interests lie in one or another of those fields. Library acquisitions will be directly affected by whatever hiring choice is made. Conceivably, the choice could lie in the direction of imperialism and minorities... One history topic that has become of intense interest recently is Qing imperialism, particularly in Xinjiang and Central Asia. New history staff in that field would require the acquisition not just of more of the relevant Chinese language materials, but also of items in Manchu, Uighur, Tibetan, and Mongolian.”²⁵

In addition to an emphasis toward cross-boundary and global arenas, new international telecommunications, electronic retrieval technologies, and especially the Internet, have added a whole new dimension to the way area studies acquire, collect and preserve scholarly information. In the past decade, several conferences and meetings have been held to discuss how area studies and librarianship can meet these global resource challenges. Conferences include those in 1995²⁶ and 1997²⁷ held at Indiana University, the 1998²⁸ Association of American Universities/Association of Research Libraries (AAU/ARL) Global Resources Program held at the Library of Congress, the 2005 Yale Conference and Forum on Global Resources Network (GRN),²⁹ and in 2006 the Center for Research Libraries

²⁴ New trends and directions of area studies have been extensively discussed in recent years connected with the 2006-2010 cycle of Title VI programs and funds. Carolyn Brown, “The changing Nature of Area Studies,” *Center for Research Libraries and Library of Congress International Collections Development Workshop*, February 27-28, 2006 (Washington, DC, 2006) http://www.crl.edu/grn/Brown_CRL-LOC.pdf (Accessed July 10, 2007)

²⁵ John Dardess, *Chinese Collections: a View from the Midwest*, (Lawrence, KS, 2002). Unpublished paper presented at the GWLA East Asian Studies Conference, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, 2002.

²⁶ *Future of Area Librarianship Conference*, July 13-14, 1995 (Indianapolis: Indiana University, 1995).

²⁷ *Workshop on Area Librarianship in Higher Education*, July 18-19, 1997 (Indianapolis: Indiana University, 1997).

²⁸ *The AAU/ARL Global Resources Program: Catalyst for Cooperation*, June 24, 1998 sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries and the Library of Congress (Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1998).

²⁹ *Global Resource Network, Conference and Forum*, March 24 & 25, 2005 (New Haven: Yale University, 2005) http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/globalrecord/new_web/index.html (Accessed July 6, 2007)

and LC Workshop on Developing Collections for International Studies³⁰ and the Changing Global Book Collection Patterns in ARL Libraries. What new directions are needed for East Asian collections? What are the challenges of collecting resources and preserving the future relevance of East Asian collections?

How can the outcomes from major conferences held recently encourage stewards of East Asian collections in North America to become part of the global resource sharing network? Examples of some successful projects are AAU/ARL/North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources (NCC) Global Resources Program Japan Journal Access Project, the University of Pittsburgh's East Asian Gateway Service for Chinese and Korean Academic Journal Publications, the Portal to Asian Internet Resources (PAIR). These programs have promoted the usage of collections in the East and the West by providing access service, resource exchange, and directory guides using metadata search engines. These services operate between collections and users and promote the sharing of scholarly information. These East Asian languages collections could be treated as an *integrated* global collection in future collection development. The multiple copies held by many countries could be treated as one global collection with many circulated copies.

According to CEAL Statistics, fiscal support in 2006 for North America East Asian collections included 10 million USD with 17,810,753 USD in total collections.³¹ A total collection growth from 1964 (30,772,218) to 2006 (16,562,329) is 13,485,111 items, about five times more than 1964 total holdings. CEAL Chinese, Japanese and Korean language materials committees could collaborate on strategies that eliminate unnecessary duplications to enable libraries to specialize on in-depth collection of materials that might otherwise never be collected and preserved for study. The Korean Collection Consortium of North America and the NCC Japanese materials consortium are good examples of cooperative collection development agreements. Collaborated collection development can be especially useful for individual scholars in isolated institutions that have no East Asian bibliographer expertise.

Electronic resources significantly facilitate global research in East Asian studies. But commercially driven e-resources from East Asia have high prices and quality issues. Government funded scholarly e-resources from East Asia are not available to medium-sized East Asian libraries in North America. Consortiums and library organizations have the opportunity to address these concerns of medium and smaller sized libraries.

³⁰ *International Collections Development Workshop, February 27-28, 2006* (Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 2006). Report and Outcomes <http://www.crl.edu/grm/workshopoutcomes.pdf> (Accessed July 5, 2007)

³¹ See footnote 2.

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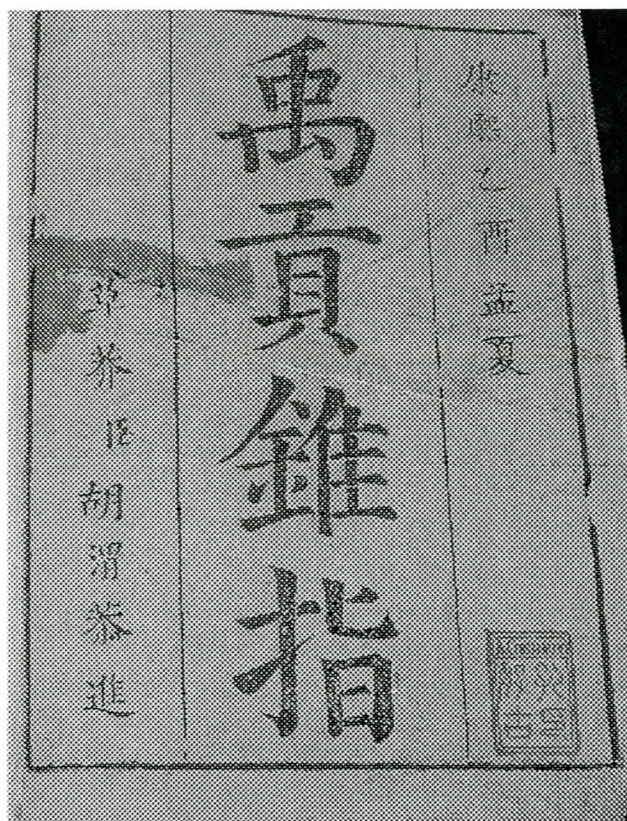


Figure 1. “A. Conrady 孔好古印” collector stamp of August Conrady (1864-1925) found in *Yugong zhuizhi* (禹貢錐指), 1705 A.D.. KU East Asian Library.

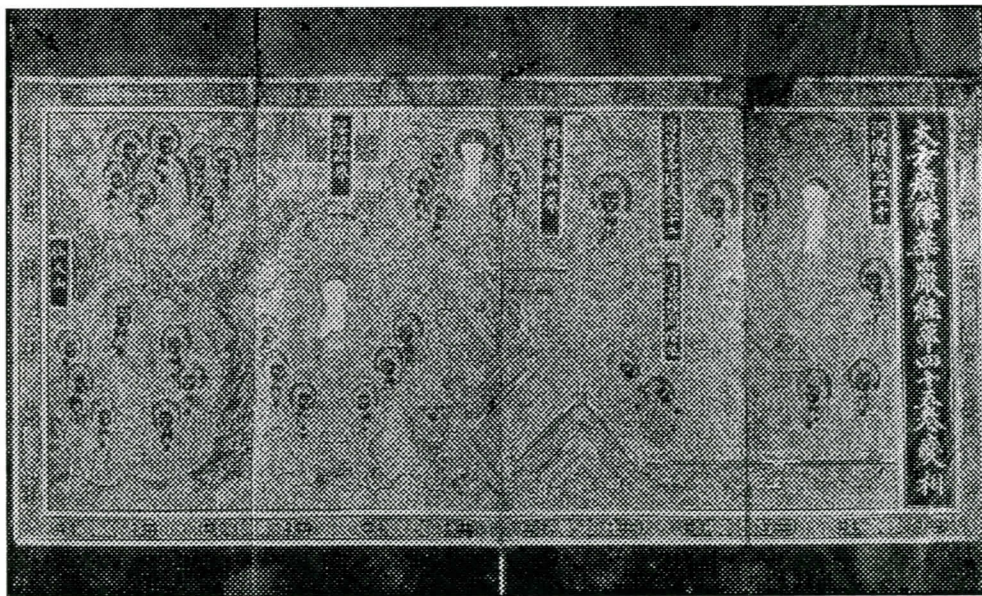


Figure 2. Korean-Chinese manuscript sutra *Dafang guangfo Huayanjing* (大方廣佛華嚴經), 1325 A.D. Spencer Research Library Special Collections, University of Kansas.